MR. E. P. VARGHESE: May I point out that the age-limit fixed in the case of some teachers is 28?

DR. K. L. MOUDGILL: Yes, Sir. Twenty-five years is the minimum fixed for any kind of teacher. I may say, further, that there is provision in the Code—a provision accepted by Government—that teachers who shall not have completed 25 years of age before applying for license shall not be debarred even if the license is given after they pass the age-limit. Therefore most of the efficient teachers in private schools can apply for recruitment to the public service and they will not be debarred on account of the age-bar restriction.

The House rose for lunch at 1 P. M. and re-assembled at 2 P. M. with the Deputy President in the chair.

MEMBER SWORN IN.

Mr. M. Govinda Pillai took the oath and signed the Rolls.

RESOLUTIONS ON MATTERS OF GENERAL PUBLIC INTEREST.—(*contd.*)

DR. K. L. MOUDGILL: Sir, I have shown that there is already provision for the recruitment of duly qualified persons even if they are teachers in private schools and that the age-bar does not act as a handicap against their getting appointments. During the course of the discussion, certain considerations, which were not very strictly applicable to the entertainment of private school teachers, were stressed. These may tend, as it were, to increase the sympathy on behalf of the private school teachers. Without intending to diminish that element of sympathy, I feel that I am bound in justice, to clear the inconsistent logic that has been advanced.

I admitted, Sir, that the results in Government schools are not so good as in private schools. That has been quoted as equivalent to saying that the results in private schools are very much better than in Government schools. That is a point still to be proved. Even so, from that assumption the argument was advanced that the private school teachers are better teachers than the Government school teachers and for that reason, it will improve the standard of education in departmental schools if they are taken into departmental schools in larger numbers. I do not wish to be tiresome in dealing with that kind of argument, but I wish to submit that the bad results, or the comparatively bad results in the departmental schools, are not necessarily because of the fault of the persons employed therein. I do not agree that teachers in private schools are better than teachers in Government schools. I mentioned on that occasion that there were several difficulties and handicaps in the departmental schools which did not exist for the private schools. To assume, that merely by recruiting teachers from private schools and putting them in the departmental schools would improve the results in the departmental schools is an optimism which I cannot share. I am sure that members of this House will see that it is an optimism not based upon sound logic.

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly